

go forth and that we keep America strong, keep our troops healthy and protect them as God would have it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING AMERICA'S JEWISH COMMUNITY ON 350TH ANNIVERSARY, SUP- PORTING DESIGNATION OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY MONTH

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 106) recognizing and honoring America's Jewish community on the occasion of its 350th anniversary, supporting the designation of an "American Jewish History Month," and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 106

Whereas in 1654, Jewish refugees from Brazil arrived on North American shores and formally established North America's first Jewish community in New Amsterdam, now New York City;

Whereas America welcomed Jews among the millions of immigrants that streamed through our Nation's history;

Whereas the waves of Jewish immigrants arriving in America helped shape our Nation;

Whereas the American Jewish community has been intimately involved in our Nation's civic, social, economic, and cultural life;

Whereas the American Jewish community has sought to actualize the broad principles of liberty and justice that are enshrined in the Constitution of the United States;

Whereas the American Jewish community is an equal participant in the religious life of our Nation;

Whereas American Jews have fought valiantly for the United States in every one of our Nation's military struggles, from the American Revolution to Operation Enduring Freedom;

Whereas not less than 16 American Jews have received the Medal of Honor;

Whereas 2004 marks the 350th anniversary of the American Jewish community;

Whereas the Library of Congress, the National Archives and Records Administration, the American Jewish Historical Society, and the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives have formed "The Commission for Commemorating 350 Years of American Jewish History" (referred to in this resolution as the "Commission") to mark this historic milestone;

Whereas the Commission will use the combined resources of its participants to promote the celebration of the Jewish experience in the United States throughout 2004; and

Whereas the Commission is designating September 2004 as "American Jewish History Month": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) honors and recognizes—

(A) the 350th anniversary of the American Jewish community; and

(B) "The Commission for Commemorating 350 Years of American Jewish History" and its efforts to plan, coordinate, and execute commemorative events celebrating 350 years of American Jewish history;

(2) supports the designation of an "American Jewish History Month"; and

(3) urges all Americans to share in this commemoration so as to have a greater appreciation of the role the American Jewish community has had in helping to defend and further the liberties and freedom of all Americans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the concurrent resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

House Concurrent Resolution 106 recognizes and honors America's Jewish community on the occasion of its 350th anniversary. In 1654, 23 Jewish immigrants from Brazil traveled across the sea and landed in North America at New Amsterdam, which eventually became New York City. Over the next few hundred years, millions more Jews from all over the world migrated to the United States in search of a better life. Our Nation is certainly a better place because they have come here. This resolution acknowledges the contributions of Jewish Americans to this great Nation, and I commend the gentleman from my home State of Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) for introducing this concurrent resolution.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is a fitting way for this House to commemorate the influence of Jewish Americans on every aspect of life in our great Nation over the last 350 years. I urge all Members to support passage of House Concurrent Resolution 106.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

American Jewish history commenced in 1492 with the expulsion of Jews from Spain. This action set off a period of intense Jewish migration. Seeking to escape the clutches of the Inquisition, some Jews in the 16th century sought refuge in the young Calvinist republic of the Netherlands. A century later hundreds of their descendants crossed the ocean to settle in the new Dutch colony of Recife in Brazil, where Jew-

ish communal life became possible for the first time in the New World. When Portugal recaptured this colony in 1654, its Jews scattered to the Dutch port of New Amsterdam, now New York City.

Colonial Jews never exceeded 1/10 of 1 percent of the American population; yet they established the patterns of Jewish communal life that persisted for generations. Jews lived in cosmopolitan cities like New York where there were opportunities for commerce and trade and organized synagogue communities. Charleston, Philadelphia, New York, and Newport each had one synagogue that assumed responsibility for the religious and communal needs of all local Jews. Early Jewish Americans explored, wrote poetry, and created industries. Jews have continued to make important contributions to the history and culture of America. During 2004 and 2005, 350 years of Jewish life in America will be commemorated, honored, and celebrated. Jewish immigration to America throughout the last 350 years brought with it legions of notable researchers, lawyers, statesmen, inventors, artists, authors, musicians, doctors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and Members of Congress.

This resolution honors the life, culture, and contributions of the 6.5 million Jews who live in America and those who came before them. I join the sponsors in supporting this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), the sponsor of the concurrent resolution.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I also want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), who is the chief cosponsor of this concurrent resolution, and we introduced it on March 20 of this year, recognizing the 350th anniversary of Jewish communal life here in North America and encouraging all Americans to celebrate September, 2004, as American Jewish History Month in recognition of the occasion. An identical resolution was introduced in the other body by Senator VOINOVICH and Senator DEWINE.

Since 1654 when Jewish refugees from Brazil established America's first Jewish community in what is now New York City, millions of Jewish immigrants have come to America and have helped shape our American culture. House Concurrent Resolution 106 recognizes the many contributions of the American Jewish community to this great Nation's civic, social, economic, and cultural life. The resolution also notes that American Jews have fought valiantly for the United States in every one of our Nation's military struggles, from the American Revolution to Operation Enduring Freedom.